

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

Thurman Jerome Brown,  
heir to the estate  
of Rosa Lee Kee Williams,  
lead plaintiff on behalf  
of himself and others  
similarly situated

for the Western  
District of North Carolina  
Division Asheville.

Case No. 1:24-cv-00283-MR-WCM  
(to be filled in by the Clerk's Office)

Jury Trial: (check one) ☒ Yes ☐ No

Plaintiff(s)

(Write the full name of each plaintiff who is filing this complaint. If the names of all the plaintiffs cannot fit in the space above, please write "see attached" in the space and attach an additional page with the full list of names.)

-v-

Registrar of Deeds For  
Cleveland County, et al.

Defendant(s)

(Write the full name of each defendant who is being sued. If the names of all the defendants cannot fit in the space above, please write "see attached" in the space and attach an additional page with the full list of names.)

FILED  
ASHEVILLE, NC

NOV 15 2024

U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
W. DISTRICT OF N.C.

COMPLAINT FOR A CIVIL CASE

I. The Parties to This Complaint

A. The Plaintiff(s)

Provide the information below for each plaintiff named in the complaint. Attach additional pages if needed.

Name

Street Address

City and County

State and Zip Code

Telephone Number

E-mail Address

Thurman Jerome Brown  
1809 Weaver Road  
Kingstown, NC 28150  
28150  
347-782-4097  
Thurmanbrownconsultant@gmail.com

B. The Defendant(s)

Provide the information below for each defendant named in the complaint, whether the defendant is an individual, a government agency, an organization, or a corporation. For an individual defendant, include the person's job or title (if known). Attach additional pages if needed.

Defendant No. 1

Name  
Job or Title (if known)  
Street Address  
City and County  
State and Zip Code  
Telephone Number  
E-mail Address (if known)

Sarah Jane Spikes  
Executor of estate  
2027 Weaver Road  
Kingstown, NC  
28450  
704-482-4682  
N/A

Defendant No. 2

Name  
Job or Title (if known)  
Street Address  
City and County  
State and Zip Code  
Telephone Number  
E-mail Address (if known)

Murrell K. Spikes  
Executor son/illegal occupant  
1809 Weaver Road  
Kingstown, NC  
28450  
704-884-5129  
N/A

Defendant No. 3

Name  
Job or Title (if known)  
Street Address  
City and County  
State and Zip Code  
Telephone Number  
E-mail Address (if known)

Rickey McCluney  
Pastor of Changers Church  
341 Hudson Street  
Shelby, NC  
28150  
704-466-5221  
ricky.mccluney@yahoo.com

Defendant No. 4

Name  
Job or Title (if known)  
Street Address  
City and County  
State and Zip Code  
Telephone Number  
E-mail Address (if known)

Mark D. Lackey  
estate Attorney  
400 W. Warren Street  
Shelby, NC  
28150  
704-487-4511  
N/A

See continued list  
attached →  
(JP)

## **Service Delivery List**

- Sarah Jane Kee Spikes

Role: Former Executor

Address: 2027 Weaver Rd, Kingstown, NC 28150

- Murrell K. Spikes

Role: Participant in Fraudulent Transfers

Address: 1809 Weaver Rd, Kingstown, NC 28150

- Rickey McCluney

Role: Title Washing Participant

Address: 341 Hudson St, Shelby, NC 28150

- Destany McCluney

Role: Illegal Occupant

Address: 1811 Weaver Rd, Kingstown, NC 28150

- Mark D. Lackey, Attorney

Role: Facilitator of Fraudulent Transfers

Address: 400 W Warren St, Shelby, NC 28150

- Thomas Martin, Attorney

Role: Drafted Fraudulent Deeds

Address: 212 S Dekalb St, Shelby, NC 28150

- Registrar of Deeds

Role: Public Official

Address: Cleveland County Courthouse, Shelby, NC 28150

- Cleveland County Magistrate

Role: Judicial Official

Address: Cleveland County Courthouse, Shelby, NC 28150

- Martha R. Thompson, County Attorney

Role: County Attorney for Cleveland County

Address: Cleveland County Attorney's Office, Shelby, NC 28150

**II. Basis for Jurisdiction**

Federal courts are courts of limited jurisdiction (limited power). Generally, only two types of cases can be heard in federal court: cases involving a federal question and cases involving diversity of citizenship of the parties. Under 28 U.S.C. § 1331, a case arising under the United States Constitution or federal laws or treaties is a federal question case. Under 28 U.S.C. § 1332, a case in which a citizen of one State sues a citizen of another State or nation and the amount at stake is more than \$75,000 is a diversity of citizenship case. In a diversity of citizenship case, no defendant may be a citizen of the same State as any plaintiff.

What is the basis for federal court jurisdiction? *(check all that apply)*

☒ Federal question

☐ Diversity of citizenship

Fill out the paragraphs in this section that apply to this case.

**A. If the Basis for Jurisdiction Is a Federal Question**

List the specific federal statutes, federal treaties, and/or provisions of the United States Constitution that are at issue in this case.

**B. If the Basis for Jurisdiction Is Diversity of Citizenship****1. The Plaintiff(s)****a. If the plaintiff is an individual**

The plaintiff, *(name)* \_\_\_\_\_, is a citizen of the State of *(name)* \_\_\_\_\_.

**b. If the plaintiff is a corporation**

The plaintiff, *(name)* \_\_\_\_\_, is incorporated under the laws of the State of *(name)* \_\_\_\_\_, and has its principal place of business in the State of *(name)* \_\_\_\_\_.

*(If more than one plaintiff is named in the complaint, attach an additional page providing the same information for each additional plaintiff.)*

**2. The Defendant(s)****a. If the defendant is an individual**

The defendant, *(name)* \_\_\_\_\_, is a citizen of the State of *(name)* \_\_\_\_\_. Or is a citizen of *(foreign nation)* \_\_\_\_\_.

b. If the defendant is a corporation

The defendant, (name) \_\_\_\_\_, is incorporated under  
the laws of the State of (name) \_\_\_\_\_, and has its  
principal place of business in the State of (name) \_\_\_\_\_.  
Or is incorporated under the laws of (foreign nation) \_\_\_\_\_,  
and has its principal place of business in (name) \_\_\_\_\_.

*(If more than one defendant is named in the complaint, attach an additional page providing the same information for each additional defendant.)*

3. The Amount in Controversy

The amount in controversy—the amount the plaintiff claims the defendant owes or the amount at stake—is more than \$75,000, not counting interest and costs of court, because *(explain)*:

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### III. Statement of Claim

Write a short and plain statement of the claim. Do not make legal arguments. State as briefly as possible the facts showing that each plaintiff is entitled to the damages or other relief sought. State how each defendant was involved and what each defendant did that caused the plaintiff harm or violated the plaintiff's rights, including the dates and places of that involvement or conduct. If more than one claim is asserted, number each claim and write a short and plain statement of each claim in a separate paragraph. Attach additional pages if needed.

See attached Complaint for Class Action  
status.

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### IV. Relief

State briefly and precisely what damages or other relief the plaintiff asks the court to order. Do not make legal arguments. Include any basis for claiming that the wrongs alleged are continuing at the present time. Include the amounts of any actual damages claimed for the acts alleged and the basis for these amounts. Include any punitive or exemplary damages claimed, the amounts, and the reasons you claim you are entitled to actual or punitive money damages.

See Attachments.

**V. Certification and Closing**

Under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 11, by signing below, I certify to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief that this complaint: (1) is not being presented for an improper purpose, such as to harass, cause unnecessary delay, or needlessly increase the cost of litigation; (2) is supported by existing law or by a nonfrivolous argument for extending, modifying, or reversing existing law; (3) the factual contentions have evidentiary support or, if specifically so identified, will likely have evidentiary support after a reasonable opportunity for further investigation or discovery; and (4) the complaint otherwise complies with the requirements of Rule 11.

**A. For Parties Without an Attorney**

I agree to provide the Clerk's Office with any changes to my address where case-related papers may be served. I understand that my failure to keep a current address on file with the Clerk's Office may result in the dismissal of my case.

Date of signing: \_\_\_\_\_

11/12/2024

Signature of Plaintiff

Printed Name of Plaintiff

*Arthur Jerome Brown*  
Arthur Jerome Brown, Pro Se

**B. For Attorneys**

Date of signing: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Attorney

Printed Name of Attorney

Bar Number

Name of Law Firm

Street Address

State and Zip Code

Telephone Number

E-mail Address